based on threat assessment; deployment of forces on and surveillance on the border; sharing of intelligence on a continuous basis; financial assistance for strengthening and upgradation of the local Police under the Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces; sanctioning of India Reserve Battalions/Commando Battalions; assistnace for strengthening of various aspects of the security apparatus and counter insurgency operations by way of reimbursement of expenditure under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme; etc. The Central Government has also been in close and continuous contact with the State Government and has been reviewing the situation on a regular basis, including visits of senior officers to the State from time to time.

Workers leaving for home from Maharashtra

3155. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that an estimated 60,000 workers from the Nasik-Sinnar-Ambad industrial belt and more workers from the Pune-Hinjewadi region have left for home in U.P., Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against the criminals who assulted the poor labourers;

(c) what action Government has taken against the culprits of Konkan Kanya Express incident; and

(d) what concrete steps have been followed by Government apart from assurances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Government is aware of reports of people having left their workplaces from Pune and Nasik in the wake of certain incidents that had occurred in Maharashtra in February, 2008. However, there is no authentic information about the number of such persons.

(b) According to information received from the State Government, wherever any incident took place firm action was promptly taken. 336 cases were registered in different parts of the State and 1575 persons arrested for substantive offences. In addition, preventive action was taken against 5159 persons.

(c) As per available information, a case was registered at Nagothane (District Raigad), which was later transferred to GRP, Thane and is under investigation. The incident pertained to quarrel in the general compartment over occupation of seats.

(d) A number of measures were taken by the State Government to prevent such incidents and create a sense of security which, *inter alia,* included deployment of the State Police and Central Para-Military Forces in sensitive areas, mobile patrolling, setting up of temporary Police chowkis at various places, visits of Police officials and members of Peace Committees to industrial areas, dialogue with members of North-Indian/non-Maharashtrian community to infuse a sense of security among them, regular interaction with industrialists, etc.